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ACTION IO-10

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	ACDE-00	AF-01	AID-01	ARA-01	CIAE-00
	OASY-00	EAP-01	EB-01	EUR-01	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00
	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	NEA-01	NSAE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01
	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00
	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	SA-01	PMB-00	DRL-09	G-00
	/052W						

-----ACB827 032036Z /64

O 031915Z MAR 95
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3133
INFO RWANDA COLLECTIVE
JOINT STAFF WASHDC
UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE
WHITEHOUSE WASHDC
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 000816

WHITEHOUSE PASS TO NSC FOR RICE AND STEINBERG;
JOINT STAFF FOR CHAIRMAN, DIR JS, J3;
SECDEF FOR OSD/ISA

DEPT ALSO FOR AF, IO/UNP AND IO/PHO, L/UNA AND USUN/W

E.O.12356: 3/1/2000

TAGS: ETTC, UNSC, MARR, PREL, RW, UN

SUBJECT: RWANDAN ARMS EMBARGO

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REF: A) STATE 45527, B) KIGALI 596

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: AMB. INDERFURTH MET WITH RWANDA PERMREP BAKURAMUTSA MARCH 1 TO DISCUSS MODIFYING THE ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST RWANDA. THE GOR WOULD PREFER A TOTAL LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO, BUT BAKURAMUTSA WILL CONTACT GOR AGAIN TO SEE IF IT WILL AGREE ON A STRATEGY TO WORK TOWARDS A PARTIAL LIFTING. PRELIMINARY CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS INDICATE THAT FRANCE, UK AND RUSSIA VIEW EVEN A PARTIAL LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO AS PREMATURE, AND WOULD PREFER WORKING THROUGH THE COUNCIL'S SANCTIONS COMMITTEE TO OBTAIN CASE-BY-CASE EXEMPTIONS FOR SPECIFIC GOODS THE RWANDANS SEEK TO IMPORT. CHINA IS MORE WILLING TO BACK THE RWANDAN/NAM POINT OF VIEW, ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO LIVE WITH USING THE COMMITTEE. NIGERIA FAVORS PARTIAL LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO. OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS DO NOT HAVE STRONG VIEWS. END SUMMARY.

3. AMB. INDERFURTH PRESENTED TALKING POINTS REF A TO AMB. BAKURAMUTSA MARCH 1. AMB. BAKURAMUTSA TOLD AMB. INDERFURTH THE EMBARGO WAS TOTALLY UNJUSTIFIED, WAS VIEWED BY THE GOR AND THE FAR AS A PUNISHMENT OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT, AND LEFT RWANDA WITHOUT DEFENSES AGAINST ITS ENEMIES. BAKURAMUTSA OBJECTED THAT RWANDAN SOLDIERS DID NOT NEED TO BE WELL-DRESSED WHEN THEY DIED, BUT NEEDED TO BE ABLE TO BUY ARMS. AFTER QUITE A BIT OF DISCUSSION, HE CAME AROUND TO ADMITTING THAT A

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HALF-LIFTING WAS BETTER THAN NOTHING AT ALL. HE PROMISED TO CONTACT HIS GOVERNMENT TO CLARIFY ITS POSITION, AND TO ENCOURAGE THE GOR TO TAKE THE LEAD IN CONTACTING OTHER SC MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO LOBBY ON THIS ISSUE. BAKURAMUTSA SAID HE WOULD RELAY HIS GOVERNMENT'S OFFICIAL RESPONSE TO USUN MARCH 2. AMB. INDERFURTH STRESSED THE NECESSITY OF WORKING CLOSELY TOGETHER IF THERE WAS TO BE ANY HOPE OF GETTING A RESOLUTION PAST THE OPPOSITION OF OTHERS ON THE COUNCIL. HE SUGGESTED THE BEST WAY TO BROACH THE ISSUE WOULD BE FOR THE

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RWANDAN DELEGATION TO APPROACH THE NAM AND SEEK SUPPORT FOR MODIFICATION OF THE EMBARGO.

4. IN SEPARATE DISCUSSIONS, FRENCH POLOFF INDICATED THAT PARIS DOES NOT/WANT TO ENTER INTO DISCUSSION OF LIFTING THE EMBARGO. PARIS BELIEVES RWANDA WILL CALL FOR TOTAL LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO, WHICH PARIS SEES AS PREMATURE IN LIGHT OF CONTINUING TENSIONS IN THE AREA. THEY COULD CONSIDER MAKING ALLOWANCES FOR THE IMPORTATION OF SPECIFIC ITEMS, IN RESPONSE TO REQUESTS MADE TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S SANCTIONS COMMITTEE. IF A RESOLUTION ON THIS MATTER IS INESCAPABLE, FRANCE WOULD PREFER LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD AUTHORIZE THE IMPORT OF SPECIFIED ITEMS, RATHER THAN LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD DECIDE TO LIFT PARTIALLY THE EMBARGO. COMMENT: SINCE UNSCR 918 AND ITS IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES DO NOT SEEM TO AUTHORIZE THE COMMITTEE TO APPROVE EXEMPTIONS TO THE ARMS EMBARGO, THIS MAY GO BEYOND THE COMMITTEE'S POWER.

5. UK DOES NOT WANT TO APPROVE A PARTIAL LIFTING OF SANCTIONS AND SUGGESTS FOLLOWING: (A) RWANDA ASKS
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SANCTIONS COMMITTEE FOR PERMISSION TO IMPORT X. (B)
SANCTIONS COMMITTEE INFORMS RWANDA THAT COMMITTEE HAS NO
AUTHORITY TO APPROVE. (C) SANCTIONS COMMITTEE THEN
PREPARES DRAFT RESOLUTION TO MAKE AN EXCEPTION FOR
RWANDA TO IMPORT THE ITEM OR ITEMS IN QUESTION.
COMMENT: WHILE USUN AGREES THAT COMMITTEE LACKS
AUTHORITY AND SC ACTION IS NECESSARY, WE FIND UKUN
APPROACH (BASED ON SC RES 967) PERHAPS MORE COMPLICATED
THAN NECESSARY. END COMMENT. RUSSIAN POLOFF RELAYED
THAT MOSCOW DOES NOT WISH TO SEE THE COUNCIL TAKE UP THE
LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO AT THIS TIME. CHINESE POLOFF HAS
NOT CONVEYED THE OPINION OF BEIJING, BUT HIS PRELIMINARY
REACTION WAS TO FAVOR GOING THROUGH THE SANCTIONS
COMMITTEE RATHER THAN PASSING A RESOLUTION. THE CHINESE
POSITION ON AFRICAN ISSUES IS USUALLY STRONGLY
INFLUENCED BY THE POSITION OF THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES AND
THE NAM.

6. NIGERIA INDICATED THAT IT WOULD FULLY SUPPORT ANY

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EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A PARTIAL LIFTING OF THE RWANDAN
EMBARGO. OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS WHEN APPROACHED
EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT A PARTIAL LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO
MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE, AND UNDERTOOK TO CHECK WITH
CAPITALS. MOST SEEMED INCLINED TO GO ALONG WITH THE

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CONSENSUS IN THE COUNCIL.

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